

Present: Laila Barr; Dan Chavre; Kathy Dunn; Dave Elliott, vice-chair; Chris Fankhauser, (provisional); Kumiko Huff; Carl Johnson (provisional); Jane Kuechle, chair; Ed Miller; Miranda Leidich; Michael O'Neal (provisional); Carla Saulter; Roger Thordarson

Excused: Tina Shereen

Staff: Barbara de Michele, Community Relations liaison; David Hull, Service Planning Supervisor

Guests: None

Kuechle called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.,

Transportation Choices Coalition

TCC Executive Director Rob Johnson provided an overview of his organization and its legislative goals for 2010. Transportation Choices is a membership organization that supports the development of mass transit and creative transportation solutions. The group will be holding a Transportation Day in Olympia on January 28. TAC members may choose to attend as individual participants. Johnson distributed membership packets and directed the group to several transportation-related websites, including the Seattle Transit Blog, Publicola, Buschick, Transportation4America, and the TCC website. With regard to the legislative agenda, Johnson said that TCC viewed 2010 as a "building year" for future initiatives supporting light rail and transit.

Service Planning

Service Planning Supervisor David Hull provided an overview of Metro's achievements for 2009 and goals for 2010. Among the highlights:

- Overall, the system is becoming more balanced between east and west King County. Service planners are focused on improving connections for efficiencies and to make the system less Seattle-centric.
- Metro's RapidRide system will start its initial "A" Line in the summer of 2010. The "B" (Bellevue-Redmond) and "C" (West Seattle) lines will start in 2011. The "D" line in Ballard and the "E" line on Aurora Boulevard will come online in 2013. The Council approved a sixth RapidRide Line ("F") from Renton to Burien because the Council recognizes that RapidRide is "the future of the system."
- The Transit Now Partnership program will launch in 2010 with a shuttle bus in Auburn. The Auburn City Council is paying for part of the cost. Unfortunately, because of the economic crisis, other partnership programs are being deferred.
- The Council inserted a budget proviso requiring the creation of a regional Transit Task Force to look at Metro's funding and revenue issues. Even without the economic crisis, Metro would have difficulty keeping pace with demand for services under its current revenue structure. The Council will represent all

Note: Provisional membership is provided to Transit Advisory Committee nominees whose applications have been approved by Metro staff, approved by their respective Councilmembers, and submitted to the Executive. Provisional members are allowed to deliberate with other TAC members, but may not participate in votes or be elected to committee leadership posts.

geographic regions, several important interest groups, and bus riders. Hull indicated that the Transit Advisory Committee and Accessible Services Advisory Committee could have representation on the Task Force. A report from the Task Force is due by September, 2010.

- Metro is also required to complete its long-range strategic plan in 2010. The TAC will play a role in reviewing the plan.
- The 2009 audits of Metro operations did produce some interesting data, including a proposed reduction of 200,000 hours through layover efficiencies. Metro will also examine its low-performing routes to see if some runs can be cut.
- In 2010, Metro will undergo a service audit and a fare free zone audit

In conclusion, Hull said that he hopes to promote greater transparency in the planning process by putting planners' journals on the website. Hopefully, this would give local transit bloggers and others a better insight into the planning process.

TAC-ASAC Merger

Members reviewed a document outlining proposed ordinance changes that would create a single advisory committee by merging TAC and the Accessible Services Advisory Committee (ASAC). The document was developed by a sub-committee composed of Kay Burrows and Jerome Pipitone from ASAC, and by Miller, Shereen, Barr and Dunn of TAC. Following a general discussion of the points, Miller said that he supports the merger because the issues confronted by the two committees are aligned. By combining the two groups, the voices of both would be strengthened. O'Neal seconded Miller's comments. De Michele explained that a formal vote on the merger will be taken at the January meeting, allowing members time to read over the document thoroughly and get any questions answered before the next meeting.

Committee Business

- Kathy Dunn was elected vice-chair, to serve as chair in April, May and June. Dave Elliott will assume the role of Transit Advisory Committee chair.
- Shereen asked about the status of the letter of advice to jurisdictions. De Michele said that it was delayed until after the elections. She will add it to the January or February agenda.

Kuechle adjourned the meeting promptly at 8:15 p.m.